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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 00-1278)

In the Application of:)
Lawton *et al.*)
Serial No.: 09/765,739) Art Unit: 1645
Filed: January 18, 2001) Examiner: V. Ford
For: Compositions and Methods for Detection of *Ehrlichia canis* and *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* Antibodies)

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

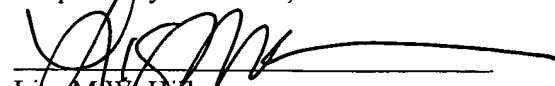
Dear Sir:

In regard to the above identified application,

1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:
 - a) Interview Summary After Final;
 - b) Return postcard
2. With respect to fees:
 - a) It is believed no fee is due at this time.
 - b) Please charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment our Deposit Account, No. 13-2490.
3. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION: Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2490. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
4. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described in paragraph 1, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 23, 2004.

Date: April 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa M. W. Hillman
Registration No. 43,673



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INTERVIEW SUMMARY AFTER FINAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Box After Final

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the personal interview conducted on March 23, 2004. Applicants thank the Examiner for granting the interview.

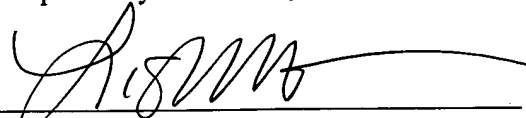
The Applicants summary of the interview is as follows.

Claims 21-24 and 39-42 were discussed. The prior art discussed was Warner et al., J. Vet. Diag. Invest. 12:240-244 (2000); Cadman et al. Vet. Record, 135:362 (1994), and Rikihisa et al., WO99/13720. Open claim language of the claims was discussed. The term "device" was discussed and examples of devices including microtiter plates were given. Amino acid variant language was discussed. No agreement was reached as to the final disposition of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/23/04

By:



Lisa M.W. Hillman

Reg. No. 43,673